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THE CHARLOTTE POST

"Charlotte's Fastest Growing Community Weekly"

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BY FAR, MORE
BLACK CONSUMERS

Poor Academic Performance

Alarms Black And White Parents

**We Apologize
For The
Inconvenience**

By Sidney Moore, Jr.
Post Staff Writer
Inconvenience has been the result of a relocation of the office of The Charlotte Post. Although "better service" was the intent of a decision by Post publisher "Bill" Johnson, problems in getting the new office established have interfered. The main problem has been with telephones.

Southern Bell had promised to have the telephone working when the new office at 1524-26 West Boulevard at Remount Road was scheduled to open on Monday, May 15. But, alleged problems with a cable prevented the telephone company from fulfilling its promise.

The office is located in The Westover Shopping Center Mall, about midway of the front view of the shopping center and within a center mall section.

Johnson said a single temporary line will stand-in for full service until the problem is solved. Four lines will eventually assist the weekly newspaper to serve the community.

In addition to more space and more comfortable facilities, Johnson had hoped the new office would make it possible to expand photographic services, provide more accurate news coverage and improve circulation of the publication.

Carolina Action To Oppose Airport

Bond Referendum
Carolina Action, the citizens action group organized in three Charlotte neighborhood organizations and several city-wide committees, announced Monday that it was opposed to the airport bond referendum.

The group said it would contact other organizations interested in defeating the bond and mobilize its constituency to go to the polls on June 20.

Charlotte LBDO Sets Second

Annual Minority Business Banquet

By Hoyle H. Martin Sr.
Post Editorial Writer
Charlotte Local Business Development Organization (LBDO), in cooperation with Radio Station WGIV, will hold its Second Annual Minority Business Awards Banquet on Friday, May 26 in the Imperial Ballroom of the Quality Inn Motel. Charles F. McMillan, Atlanta Regional Director of the U.S. Department of Commerce, office of Minority Business Enterprise, will deliver the keynote address.

Thomas Staton, executive director of the Charlotte LBDO, said, "the banquet has been designed to give recognition and encouragement to a number of business people that LBDO has given assistance to over the past year." Specifically, he continued, 11 minority entrepreneurs that have received certificates as minority business people of the month will be recognized with one from that group



GRADUATES OF CPCC NURSES

...Aide Training Program

Early Childhood Training

Program Graduates 13 Students

Before Christmas, Virginia Lilly, Human Services Assistant in the city's Community Development Department's Economic Development Manpower section, and her staff sensed a need for Early Childhood Aids in Charlotte.

Their survey of local agencies turned up a real lack of such personnel. In cooperation with Lois Petrovsky of CPCC's Early Childhood Development Program, they designed a special course for Charlotte women, none of whom had achieved beyond a high school education who were seeking new opportunities.

The first class of 13 graduates completed 11 weeks of clinical and classroom training and received certificates as Early Childhood Aids to become teacher's aids in day care centers.

In attendance at the informal ceremonies were A. C. Schull, supervisor of the Eco-

nomie Development Manpower Section, and Marion Miller, a counselor on his staff who worked very closely with the students.

The city's Economic Development and Manpower section, and CPCC are working with the city's Employment and Training Department to locate jobs for the applicants. Several job interviews have already been arranged.

Alicia Martin, a graduate who is expecting her 3rd child, typifies the enthusiastic student response: "I learned a lot in this class that will help me with my own children."

Fran Boyd, who taught the class along with Sonia Woods, feels that the lives of her students have been enriched by their experience. She believes that some have gone from negative attitudes of child raising which involve punishment to more positive attitudes of "guiding" children's growth. It is her belief

that whole attitudes toward fellow human beings have changed as students have become more aware of the uniqueness of each child.

Due to the success of this class, another is being considered. Persons interested should call Virginia Lilly of the Economic Development Manpower section at 374-3242.

Gray Loop

Road Closed To

Through Traffic

North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) officials will close to through traffic a portion of Gray Loop Road (Second Road 2417) in Mecklenburg County, Wednesday, May 17.

The temporary closing will allow NCDOT maintenance crews to replace pipe on Gray Loop Road.

33 States Have Adopted Competency Standards

By Benjamin L. Hooks
NAACP Executive Director
Special To The Post

Perhaps, it was inevitable that the plummeting academic performance of American Secondary school students would arouse alarm among both black and white parents. Partly as a result of changing social values and urban pressures, large proportions of American children are graduating from high school each year as functional illiterates. Thus, increasingly diplomas reveal not much more than that a student has completed 12 years of schooling.

In response to this mounting problem, 33 states have adopted "minimum competency" standards. Other states are also considering similar programs, and Congress is being asked to set national standards and provide Federal support for testing.

For blacks, however, tests have been anathema because of the threat of built-in bias. Having endured centuries of racial discrimination, blacks know all too well that tests have been, and continue to be, employed as another form of racial barrier.

Studies conducted by the NAACP and other national organizations, psychologists and educators have proved that tests can be structured so as to exclude a given group. The racially exclusionary factor is commonly called "cultural bias."

Due to the NAACP's historical concern about all forms of racial discrimination, it is therefore not surprising that the Florida Conference of NAACP Branches now considers as imminent a legal challenge to that state's competency tests. The only question, for State NAACP Chairman Charles Cherry and Atty. Morris Milton is whether they can afford the drawn-out and costly battle.

The problem arose when 77 percent of black 11th graders (double the number of whites) failed the functional literacy tests that students must now pass before they can graduate.

Those who fail are given two more opportunities, after which the unsuccessful students receive a "Certificate of Attendance" showing that they have completed school. As one woman remarked, however, if this is the only reward that a student will receive after 12 years of study, "there is no point in going to school. For a high school diploma is needed even to sweep the floor."

NAACP officials are particularly troubled by the requirement because Florida has no state-wide tests. Each school system creates its own tests and is responsible for providing remedial programs.

Also, teacher performance is not monitored, even in remedial programs. There are no requirements for schools to offer instruction based on test material.

Florida also has no state curriculum. And the NAACP has found that much of the material in the tests are not taught in the schools. As an example of cultural bias, State NAACP officials note that one question uses checking account terminology. But since poor blacks use money orders to pay bills rather than personal checks, many of them fail simple mathematical questions that they would have passed if they

understood the language. Despite these drawbacks, there is little doubt that tests do have a meaningful measurement role. Blacks should be careful, therefore, about backing themselves into a corner in which all tests are regarded as discriminatory. Blacks must compete with whites on a professional level.

So it is incumbent on them to master the basic academic skills that will enable them to be a good doctor, lawyer, engineer or whatever.

Recognizing the complexity of the issue, the NAACP will continue to provide the necessary guidelines for spotting "culturally biased" tests.

CD Files

Application

With HUD

The City of Charlotte has filed its fourth year Community Development Block Grant Application with the area office of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (H.U.D.) in Greensboro. A \$7,435,000 grant was requested but H.U.D. has informed the City that the amount will be reduced to \$7,374,000.

With the approval of the fourth year application, Charlotte will have received \$37,500,000 in Community Development funds since June, 1975. These monies are being used for physical, social and economic development improvements in 10 low and moderate income areas.

Copies of the application are available for public inspection at the Community Development, Cameron-Brown Building, 301 South McDowell Street, and at the Office of the City Clerk and the Public Service and Information Department located at City Hall, 600 East Trade Street.

The Community Development target areas include Grier Heights, North Charlotte, Cherry, Third Ward, West Morehead, First Ward Expansion, Southside Park, West Boulevard, Five Points and Wilmore-Dilworth.

City Government To

Observe Mecklenburg

Independence Day
All offices of Charlotte City Government will be closed Monday, May 22 in observance of Mecklenburg Independence Day. There will be no meeting of the Charlotte City Council on Monday.

Due to the four-day work week, the City Sanitation Division will provide the following collection services:

There will be no residential collection Monday. Each residence in the City will receive two backyard garbage collections on a Tuesday-Thursday and Wednesday-Friday schedule.

There will be NO curbside trash collection during the week. All trash should be kept off the curb until Tuesday, May 30 for collection Wednesday, May 31.

The Animal Control Department, 2700 Toomey Avenue, will remain open Monday, May 22 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.



LOVELY TRINA ROLAND
...Believer in astrology

Miss Trina Roland

Is Beauty Of Week

By Dianne Simpson
Post Staff Writer

"I'm not what one may call head over heels for soap operas, nonetheless I do watch them occasionally, when the TV just happens to be on at that particular time and I just happen to walk by. Anyway, as for the roles played by blacks in soap opera there are too few. I feel that Blacks should play more roles, and I feel that those roles already being played by blacks are a bit to the extremes. I mean let's face it, you either see a black that barely goes noticed such as a nurse or waitress or passerby in the background who say nothing whatsoever. Or you see this big executive black doctor or lawyer who does not associate with other blacks but prefers to sit and have tea with the bourgeois whites. I feel that soap operas would win more black TV fans if they based their characterization on realism—at least to median qualities."

These were the words that were averred by the Post's Beauty of the Week Ms. Trina Roland of 2305 Palmetto St., Apt. B. This 5'5 1/2" 18 year old beauty is a Cancer. She is a strong believer in astrology and stated that she possesses all of the true qualities that Cancer women possess, with great reference of being very sensitive.

Trina is a graduate of Olympic High School. After only a couple of days after graduation, she enrolled in the Barbizon Modeling School. After completing her modeling education at Barbizon she enrolled at Central Piedmont Community College and now plans to enroll at North Carolina Central in Durham and pursue her studies in fashion merchandising. She is presently employed as a cashier at Richway in the Freedom Mall.

Trina has done an extensive amount of modeling. She has done modeling at the American Legion in Gastonia and will be involved in another fashion show the latter part of this month.

Although Trina enjoys

modeling, her main interests are in the area of fashion merchandising. "I think blacks wanting to become models is great," stated Trina. "However," she went on to say, "I want to more or less get my hands into the field of management. I feel blacks should get involved into more areas of business management and by hopefully becoming a fashion merchant, I can fulfill this wish."

When I asked Trina if she saw a future in modeling here in the Charlotte area she quickly stated, "No, most definitely not. I don't mean to knock Charlotte because I was born and reared here, but it lacks that type of atmosphere that is necessary for the perfect establishment of modeling careers, especially for blacks going into the career."

Trina feels that in the United States, blacks in the field of modeling would have a better change in a northern state such as New York and

out West such as California. But, she feels that too much prejudices are still experienced in the southern cities and the states within that would definitely hinder the popularity of black models. "I feel that black models have to work twice as hard and twice as long, not to be successful, but to unnecessarily prove themselves," Trina commented. "I believe in proving yourself," Trina Continued, "but why waste your energy when you know you will serve as a guinea pig or token."

Besides modeling, Trina's hobbies include riding bikes, jogging, dancing and listening to disco and jazz music with her favorite jazz artist being Al Jarreau. After finding out that Trina also likes movies, she was asked which of the movies she had recently seen and liked the most. "Saturday Night Fever" won her highest approval because it provided great disco music and, "I love disco," Trina stated.

WE'VE MOVED



The Charlotte Post has moved to 1524-26 West Blvd.

We invite our readers to visit our new facilities from which we hope to provide greater and better service.

376-0496-376-0497

TURTLE-TALK



Why can't life's problems hit us when we're 18 and KNOW EVERYTHING?